

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the office action dated September 8, 2005.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-4 and 9-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blossey et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,057,930) ("Blossey et al"). Claims 1-4, 10, 14 and 18-20 have been amended to more particularly point out some distinctions from the prior art. The following remarks are given in relation to the amended claims.

The examiner cites Blossey et al as teaching the page-independent spool file (PISF) index file or these claims. However, Blossey et al teach only a typical print spool file as is common in the art. The examiner equates a section of the spool file of Blossey et al to the PISF index file of the present invention simply because both files have formatting data. However, the examiner overlooks the distinction that the PISF index file is page independent, that the PISF index file is a separate entity from the spool data file and that the PISF file is available for user manipulation after file creation. All these limitations are present in claim 1 and claims dependent thereon, but are not disclosed in Blossey et al.

The examiner further cites Blossey et al as teaching manipulation of the PISF index file. Blossey simply teaches that a spool file may comprise formatting data that is incorporated into the spool file at its creation and that this formatting data may be derived from user input. Blossey does not teach any manipulation of the file contents after the file is created.

Claims 1-4, 10, 14 and 18-20 have been amended to more particularly point out several distinctions from the prior art. Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly point out the user

manipulation of the index file may occur “after creation of the index file.” This element is not taught in Blossey et al.

Claims 2-4 and 9 are dependent on claim 1, comprise all the limitations thereof and are patentable for the reasons stated above in relation to claim 1. Additionally, claim 3 has been amended to more particularly point out that the “PISF index file comprises an independent record of each page in said spool data file.” This element is not taught in Blossey et al. Claim 4 has also been amended to more particularly point out that the “user manipulation is performed via a spooler user interface.” This element is not taught in Blossey et al.

Claim 10 has been amended to more particularly point out that the user manipulation may occur “after creation of the PISF index file,” which is not taught in Blossey et al. Claims 11-13 are dependent on claim 10, contain all the limitations thereof and are patentable for the reasons stated above in relation to claim 10.

Claim 14 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the modifying of the PISF index file occurs “after creation of said PISF index file.” This limitation is not taught in Blossey et al. Claims 15-17 are dependent on claim 14, contain all the limitations thereof and are patentable for the reasons stated above in relation to claim 14.

Claim 18 has been amended to comprise the limitation that said modifier performs “in response to user input, wherein said modifying occurs *after creation of said index file*.” This limitation is not taught in Blossey et al.

Claim 19 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the manipulating of the PISF index file occurs “after creation of said PISF index file.” This limitation is not taught in Blossey et al.

Claim 20 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the manipulating of the PISF index file occurs “after creation of said PISF index file.” This limitation is not taught in Blossey et al

The examiner has also rejected claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blossey et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,057,930)(“Blossey”) in view of applicant’s submitted prior art in the specification.

Claims 5-8 are dependent on claim 1 and comprise all the limitations thereof. Accordingly, claims 5-8 are now patentable for the reasons stated above in relation to claim 1.

Furthermore, claim 5 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the PISF index file is “created by a process that is independent of the process that created said spool data file.” This element is not taught in the combination of Blossey et al and the cited prior art.

Claim 6 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the PISF index file is “created by a modified print processor.” This element is not taught in the combination of Blossey et al and the cited prior art.

Claim 7 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the PISF index file is “stored independently of said spool data file.” This element is not taught in the combination of Blossey et al and the cited prior art.

Claim 8 has been amended to comprise the limitation that the PISF index file is “created by a print system component other than the component that creates said spool data file.” This element is not taught in the combination of Blossey et al and the cited prior art.

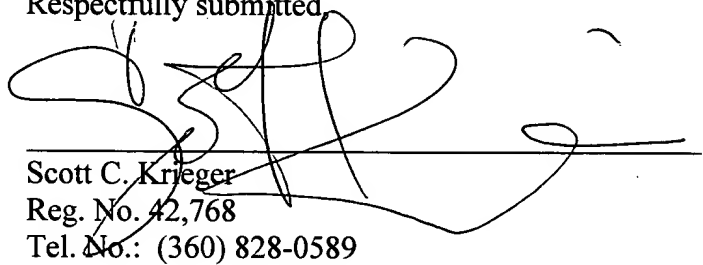
Appf. No. 09/894,928

Amdt. dated December 8, 2005

Reply to Office action of September 8, 2005

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott C. Krieger
Reg. No. 42,768
Tel. No.: (360) 828-0589